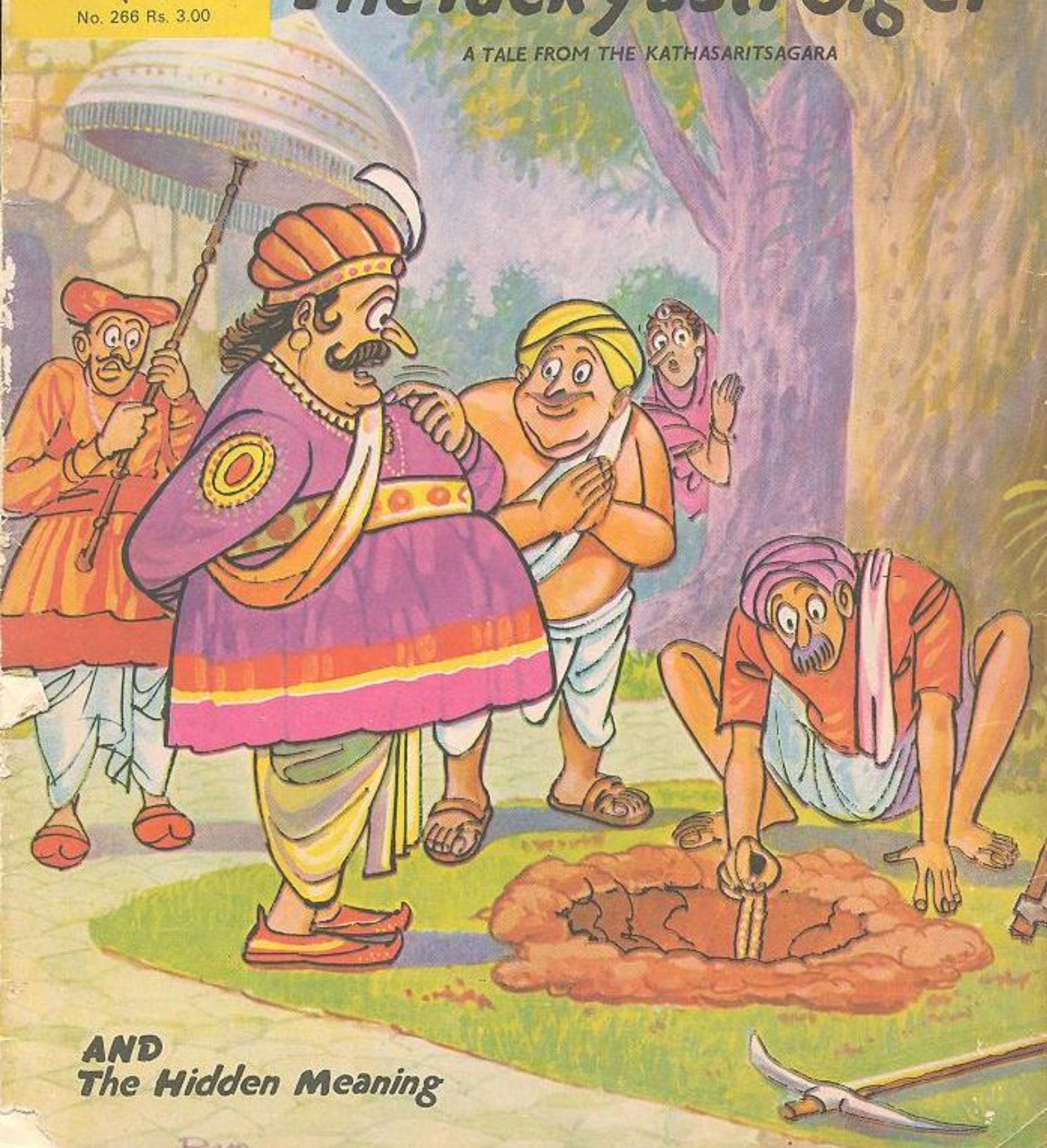




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# MANDUKA— *The lucky astrologer*

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# MANDUKA - THE LUCKY ASTROLOGER

ONE DAY A POOR BRAHMANA WAS PASSING BY THE HOUSE OF A MERCHANT.

HEY!  
THERE'S  
A WEDDING  
GOING ON  
THERE!

शिवम् पाडिया

शरद कुमार पाडिया

त्रिबेणी नगर III, बल्लभनगर

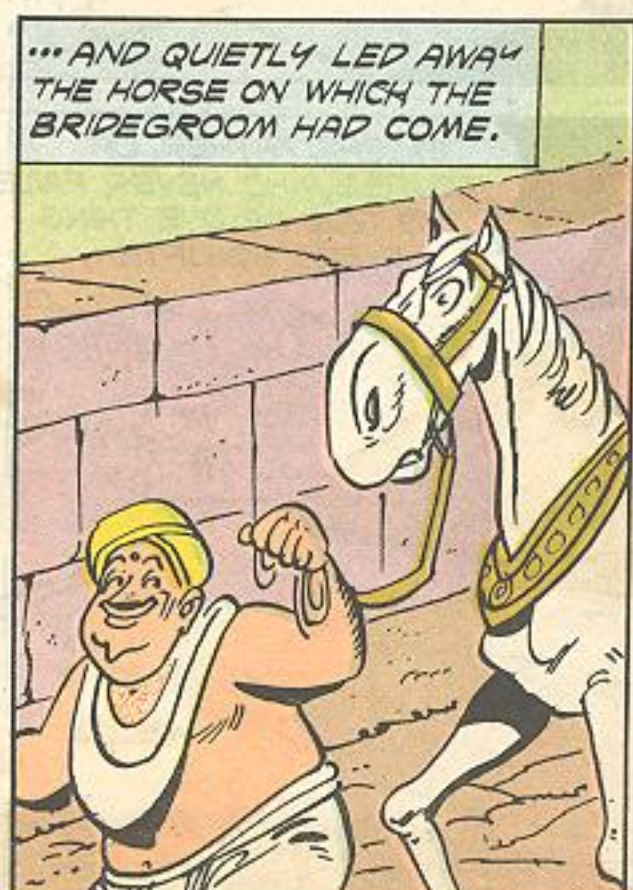
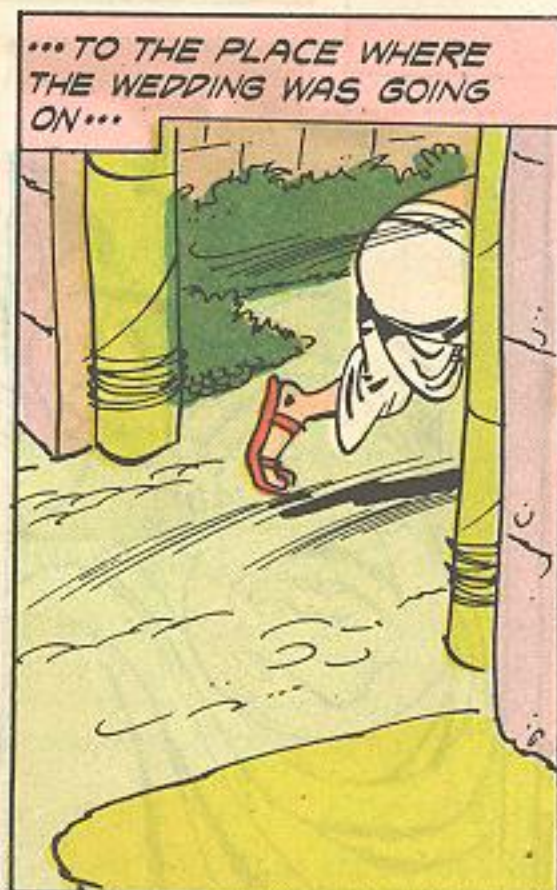
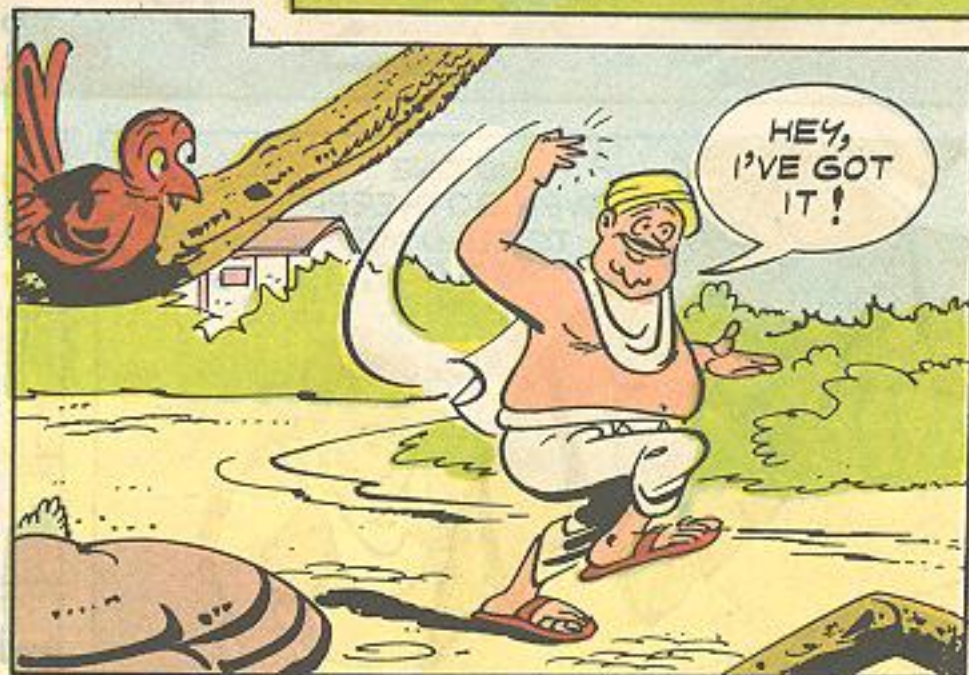
NO ONE  
EVEN BOTHERED  
TO TELL ME  
ABOUT IT.

WHO TELLS ME ANYTHING?  
EVEN WHEN I WAS A CHILD,  
EVERYBODY IGNORED  
ME.

EXCEPT FATHER, OF  
COURSE, WHO NEVER FAILED  
TO TELL ME ONE THING  
EVERY SO OFTEN.

YOU ARE AS DULL AS  
A MANDUKA\* IN  
A WELL.







THE NEXT MORNING—

MASTER, THE  
BRIDEGROOM'S HORSE  
HAS DISAPPEARED!

DISAPPEARED?

HOW COULD IT  
DISAPPEAR? GO  
AND LOOK FOR  
IT!

WE ALREADY  
HAVE, MASTER.

IT HAS  
VANISHED  
WITHOUT  
A TRACE.

OH, THIS IS  
TERRIBLE!

WHAT AM I TO  
DO NOW?

MASTER,  
THERE'S A WOMAN  
OUTSIDE WHO SAYS  
WE SHOULD SEEK  
THE HELP OF HER  
HUSBAND.

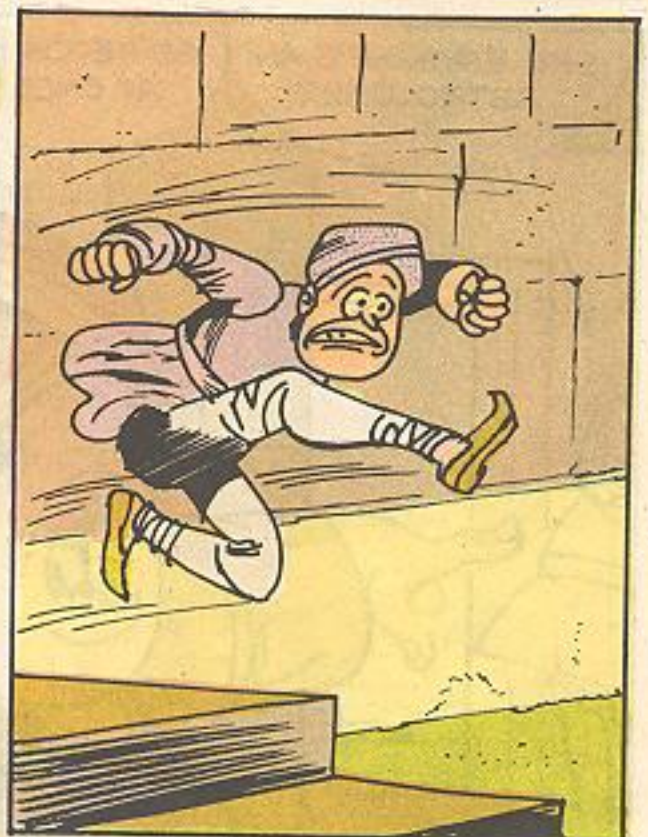
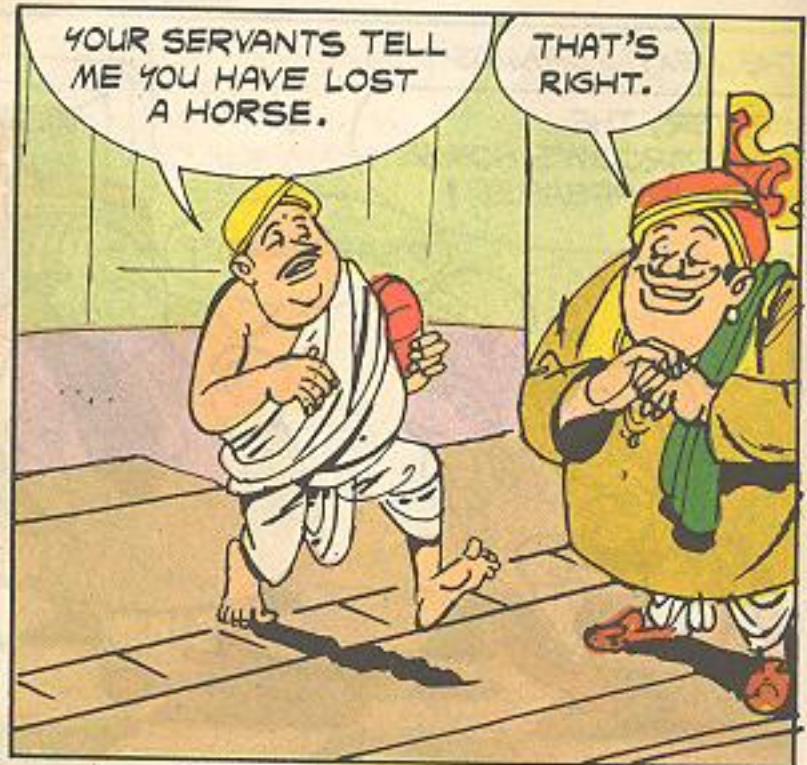
SHE SAYS HE'S AN  
ASTROLOGER.

GO FETCH HIM  
AT ONCE!

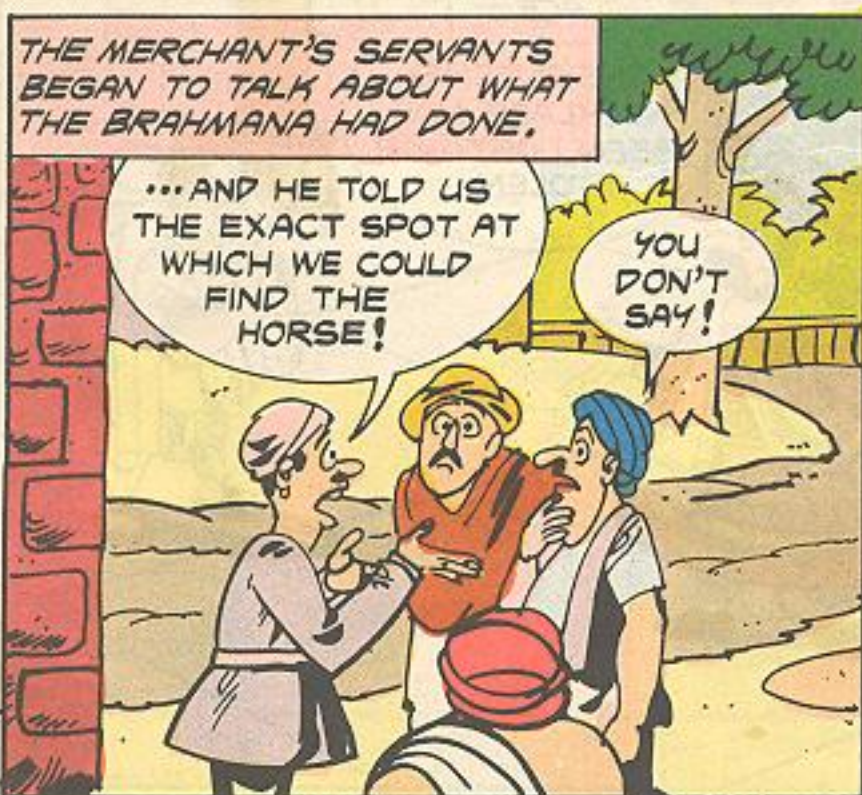
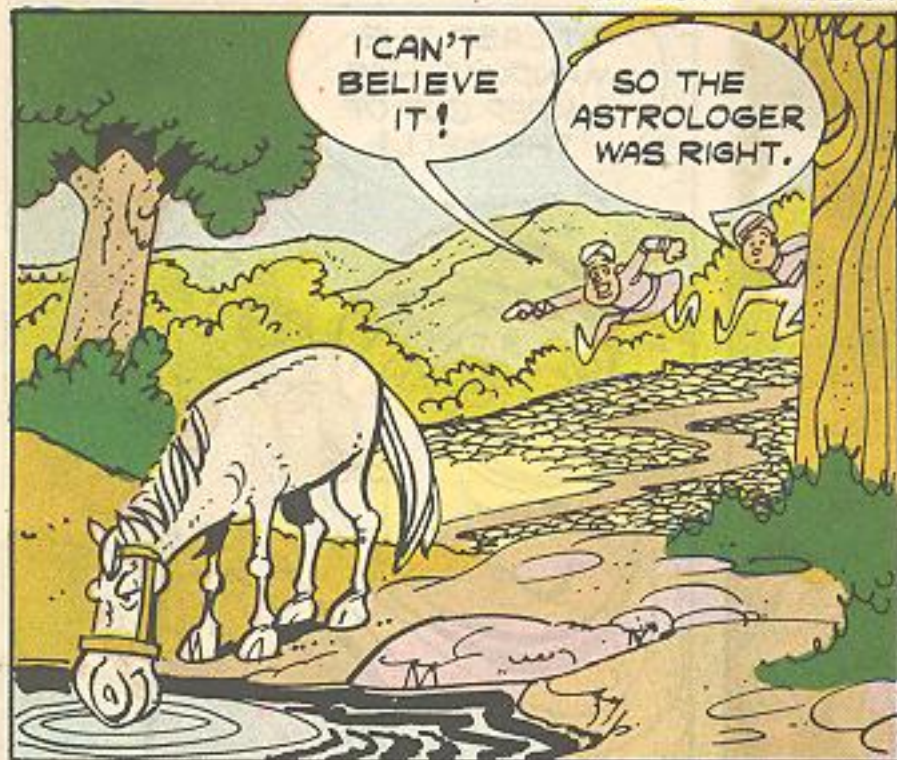
SOMETIME LATER—

THE ASTROLOGER IS  
HERE, MASTER.











SOON PEOPLE EVERYWHERE BEGAN TO SHOW HIM RESPECT.



AT LAST THE MANDUKA HAS JUMPED OUT OF THE WELL!



HE TALKS TO HIMSELF!

ALL GREAT MEN HAVE SOME PECULIARITY OR OTHER.



THE BRAHMANA'S FAME SPREAD FAR AND WIDE. THEN ONE DAY—



YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AT THE PALACE. PLEASE COME WITH ME.

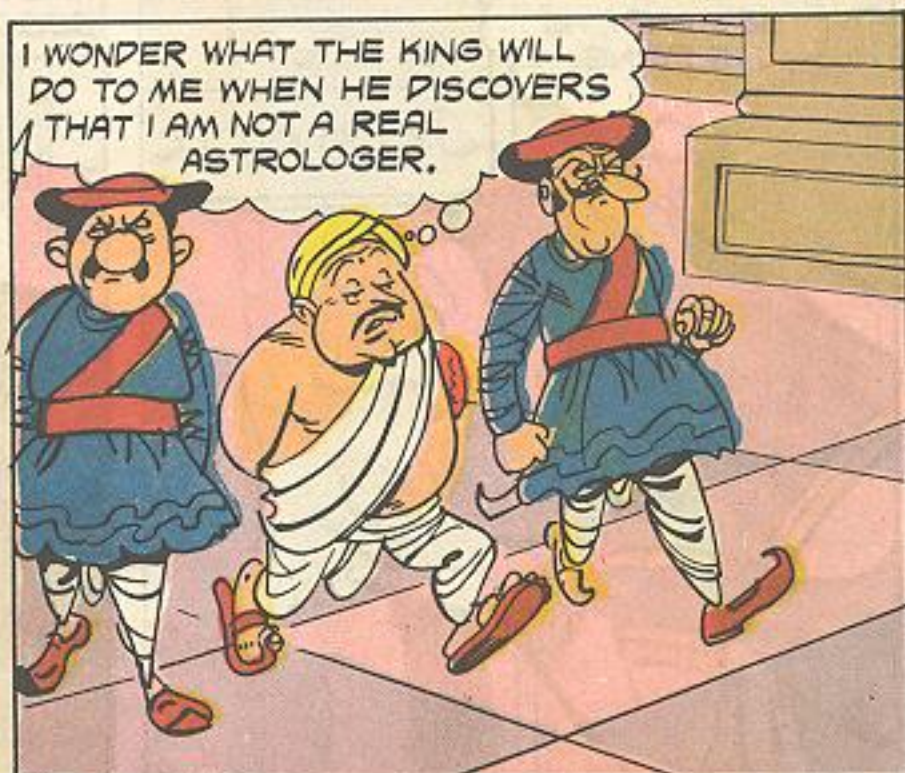


LATER, AT THE PALACE—

THE QUEEN'S NECKLACE HAS BEEN LOST...OR STOLEN...









THE BRAHMANA SHUT HIMSELF UP IN HIS CHAMBER AND PREPARED FOR THE WORST.

WELL... WHY DID I CLAIM TO BE WHAT I AM NOT? NOW I WILL JUST HAVE TO PAY FOR IT.



IT'S MY TONGUE WHICH HAS GOT ME INTO ALL THIS TROUBLE.

JUST THEN, OUTSIDE THE CHAMBER—

HE IS A GREAT ASTROLOGER.



HE WILL SOON KNOW THAT IT IS I WHO STOLE THE NECKLACE.



WHY, OH, WHY DID I DO SUCH A FOOLISH THING!



LET ME SEE WHAT HE IS DOING.



THE BRAHMANA, UNAWARE THAT THE MAID WAS PEEPIING THROUGH THE KEYHOLE, BEGAN TO SCOLD HIS TONGUE.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, JIHVAH\*? WHY DID YOU DO IT?

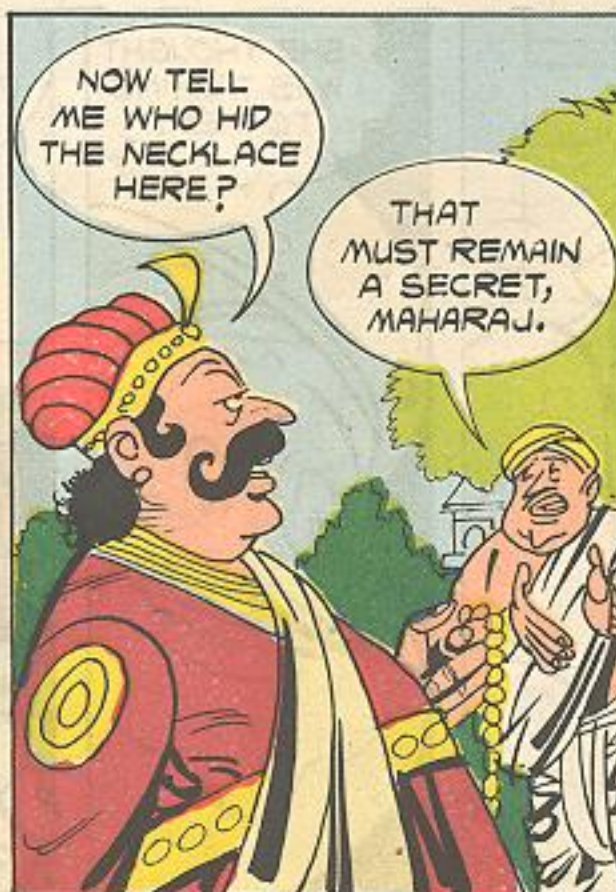
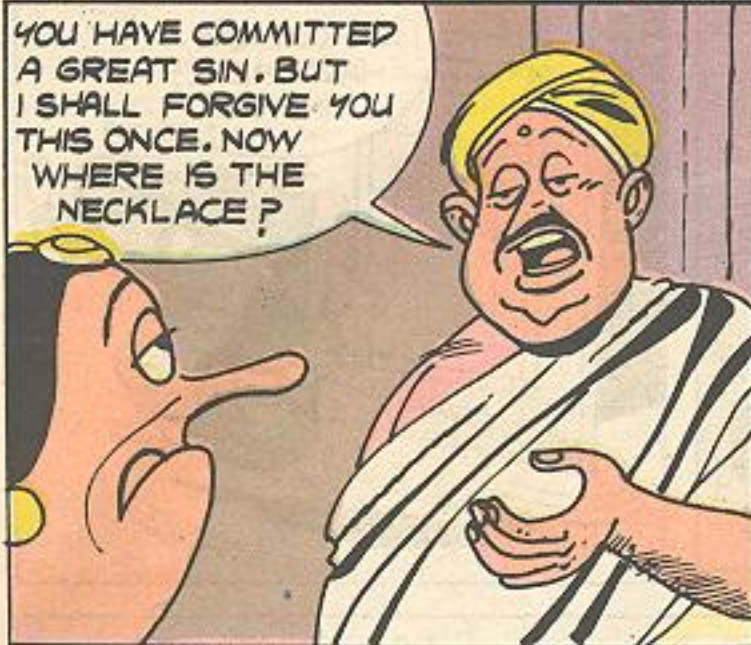


\*TONGUE (SANSKRIT)

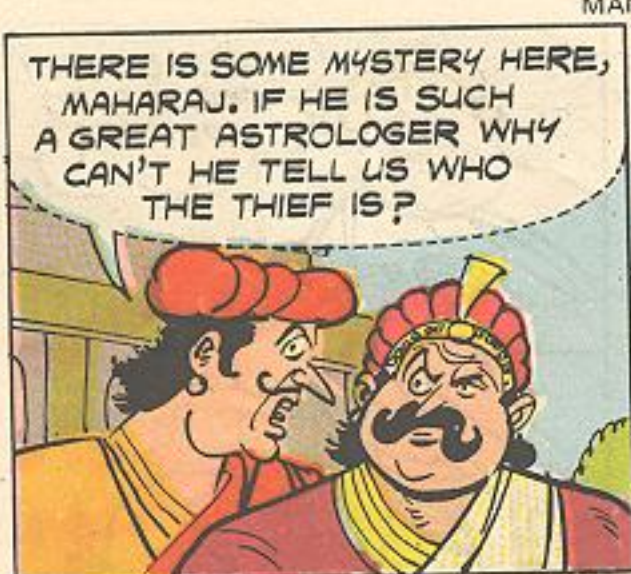














NOW I'LL HAVE TO TELL HIM THAT I AM NOT REALLY AN ASTROLOGER...

...AND THAT I FOOLED HIM AND EVERYBODY ELSE.

HE'LL SURELY PUT ME TO DEATH!

O MANDUKA\* YOU WERE BETTER OFF IN THE WELL.

WELL DONE! I SHOULD NEVER HAVE DOUBTED YOUR POWERS.

EH!

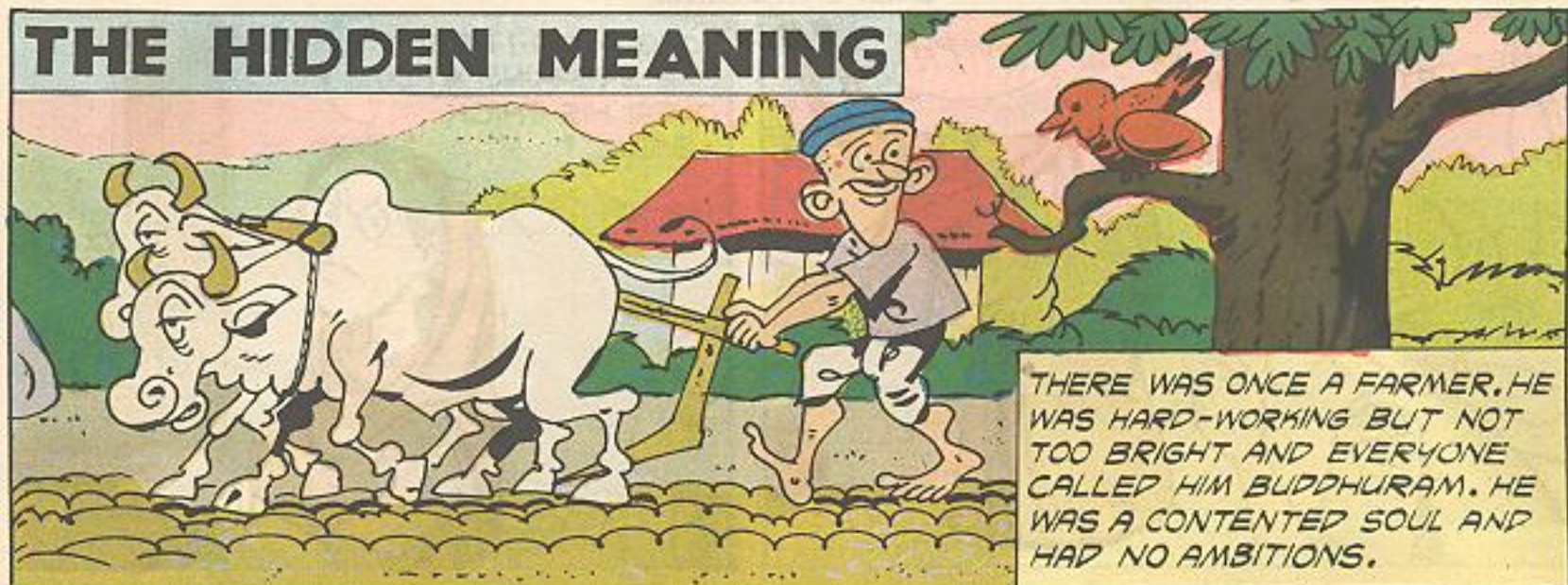
THERE IS INDEED A MANDUKA IN THE JAR.

THE KING REWARDED THE BRAHMANA WITH COSTLY GIFTS...

...AND HE RETURNED HOME TO A HERO'S WELCOME.

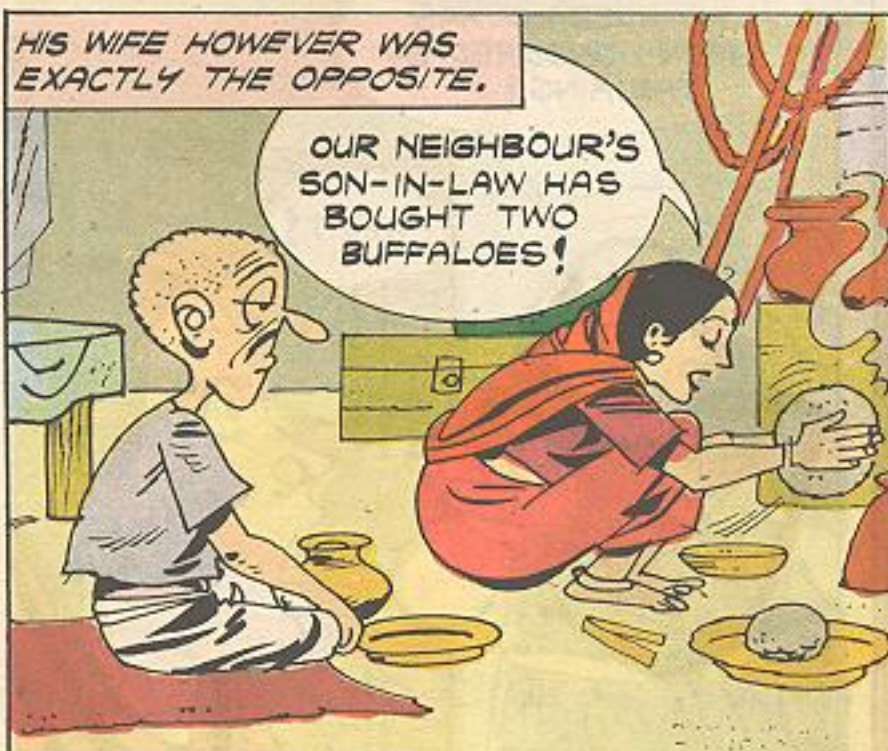


# THE HIDDEN MEANING



THERE WAS ONCE A FARMER. HE WAS HARD-WORKING BUT NOT TOO BRIGHT AND EVERYONE CALLED HIM BUDDHURAM. HE WAS A CONTENTED SOUL AND HAD NO AMBITIONS.

HIS WIFE HOWEVER WAS EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE.



OUR NEIGHBOUR'S SON-IN-LAW HAS BOUGHT TWO BUFFALOES!



EVERYONE IS BUYING BUFFALOES OR LAND... EXCEPT US.



YOU MUST MAKE MONEY SOMEHOW.



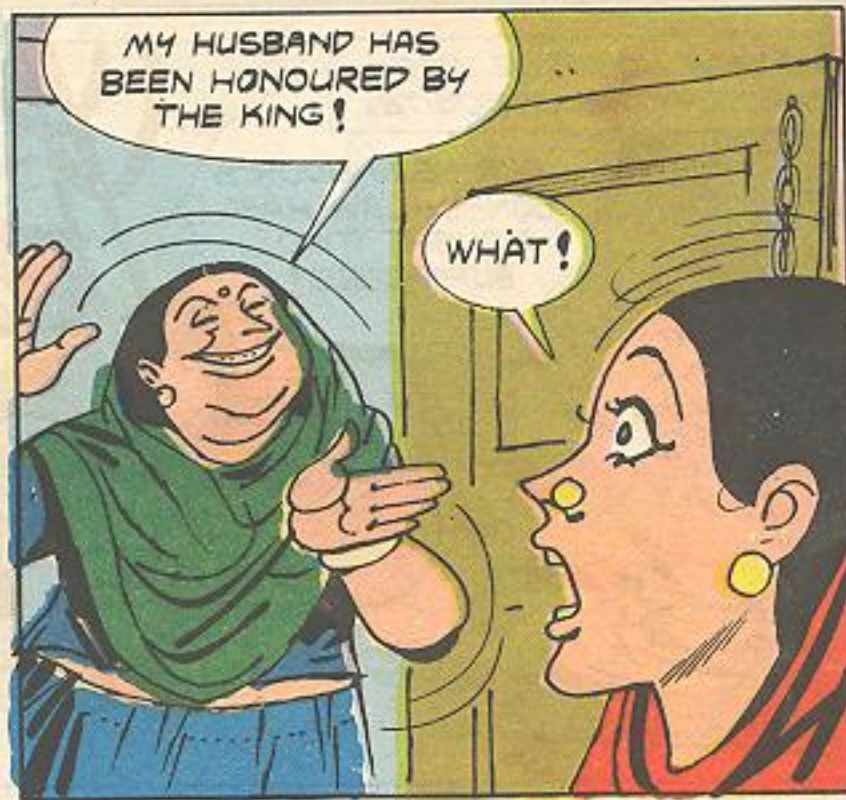
DID YOU HEAR ME?

YES, YES!

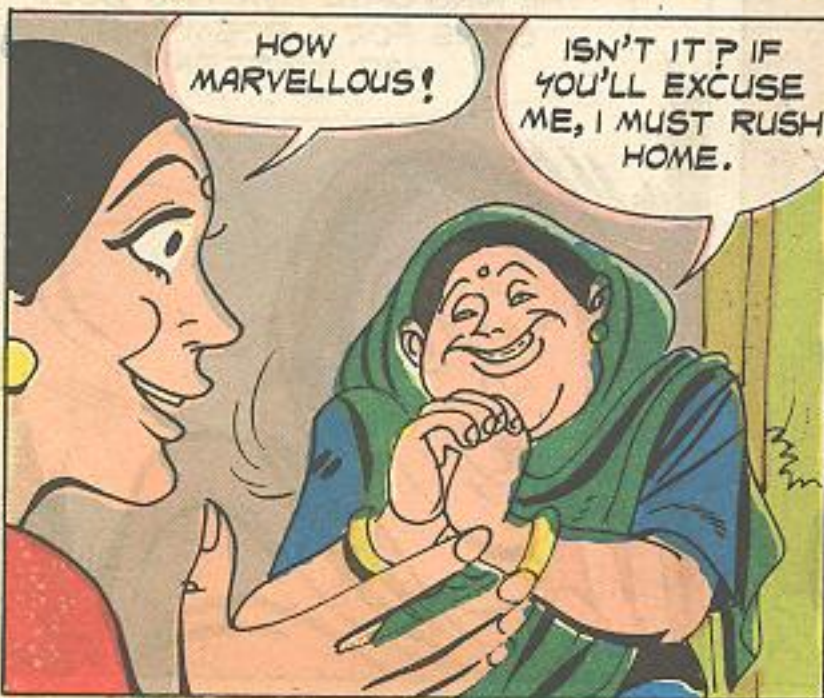
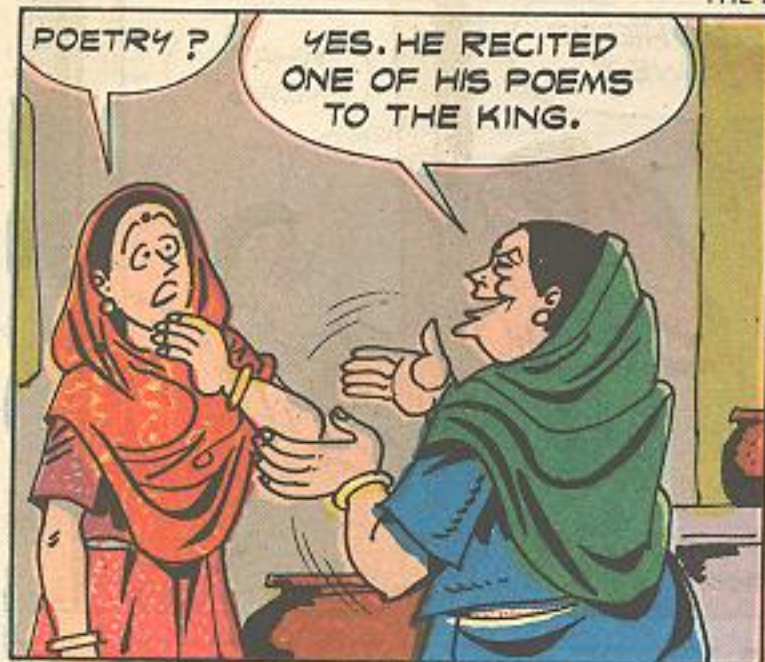




MATTERS CAME TO A HEAD WHEN ONE DAY THE NEIGHBOUR EXCITEDLY BURST INTO THE HOUSE.













...AND  
ALL YOU CAN  
THINK OF IS  
FOOD!



WELL, I HAVE HAD  
ENOUGH! YOU ARE GOING  
TO SIT DOWN AND  
WRITE A POEM  
TOO!

A POEM!



BUT I DON'T KNOW  
HOW TO READ AND  
WRITE.

I'LL TEACH  
YOU!



IF HER HUSBAND CAN  
WRITE POETRY, SO  
CAN YOU!



I'LL TEACH YOU THE  
ALPHABET FIRST. WE'LL  
BEGIN RIGHT  
NOW!



WHAT  
ABOUT  
FOOD?

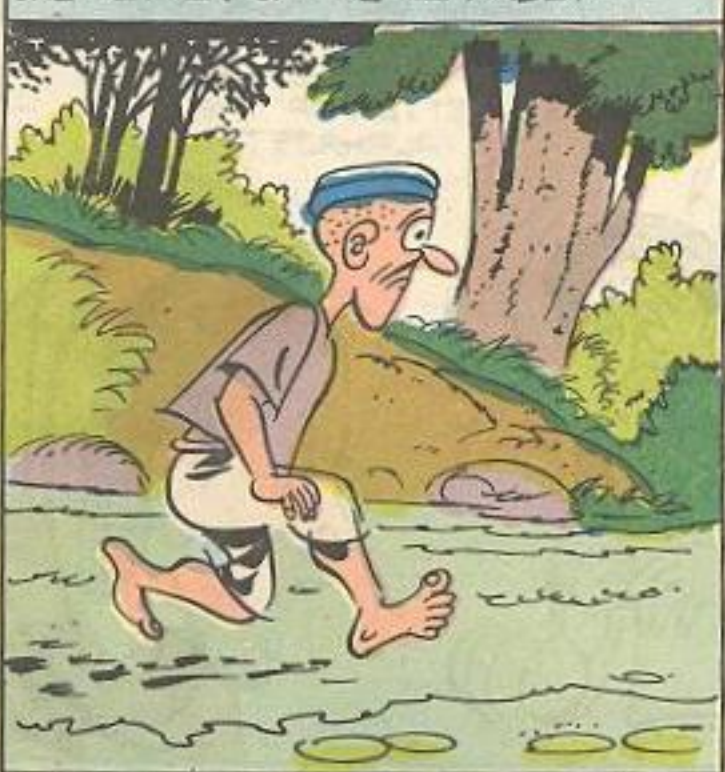
YOU'LL GET YOUR FOOD  
AS SOON AS YOU HAVE  
LEARNT THE FIRST  
LETTER OF THE  
ALPHABET.







EVERY DAY HIS WIFE WOULD TEACH HIM ONE LETTER OF THE ALPHABET...



...AND THEN SHE WOULD SEND HIM TO THE RIVERSIDE TO PRACTISE WRITING IT.





BUT POOR BUDDHURAM HAD A BAD MEMORY.

NOW WHAT DID SHE  
SAY THE THIRD  
LETTER WAS?



EEEE?  
BEEE?  
EHH?

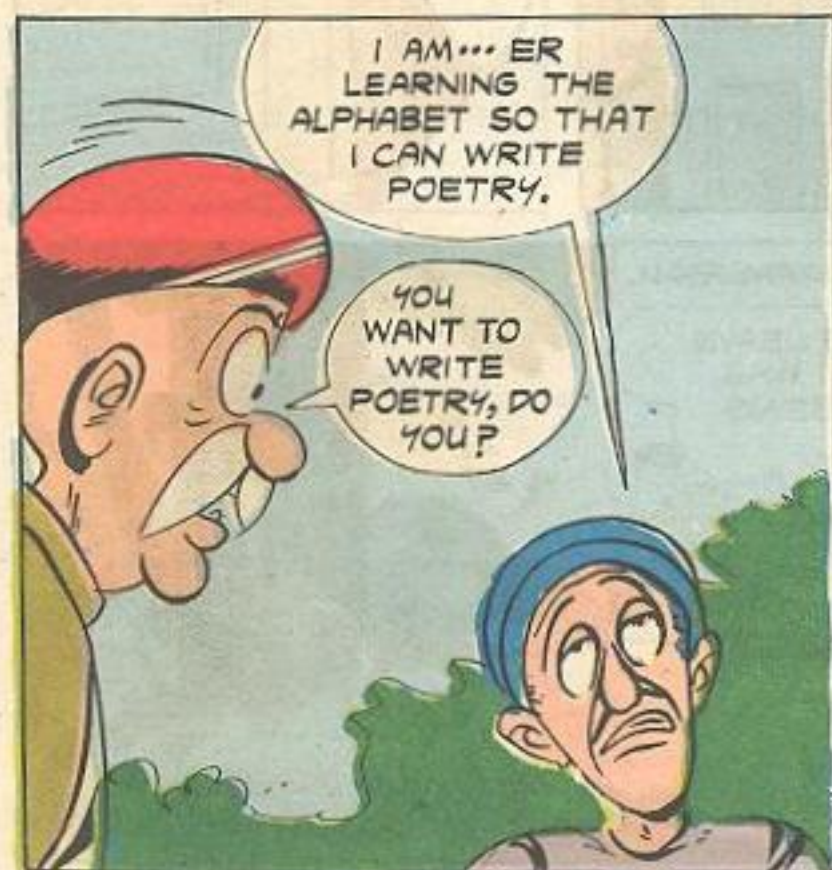


WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING MY GOOD  
MAN?



I AM... ER  
LEARNING THE  
ALPHABET SO THAT  
I CAN WRITE  
POETRY.

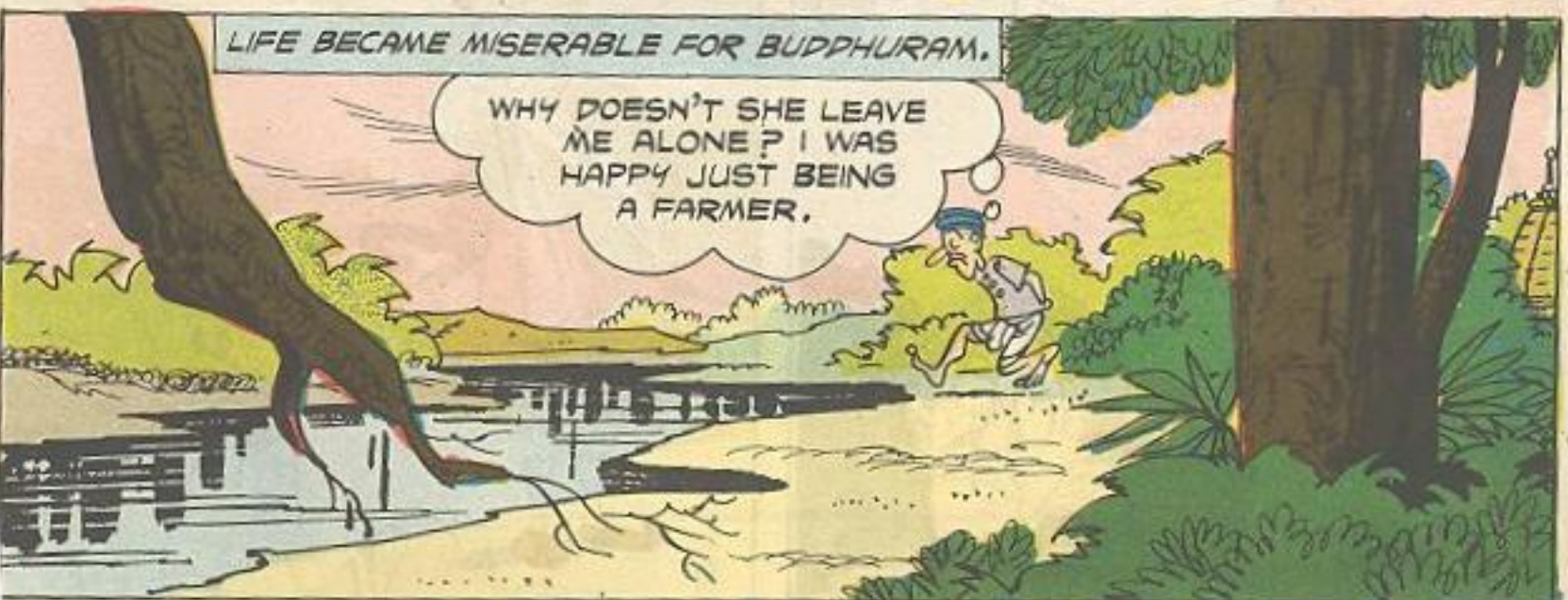
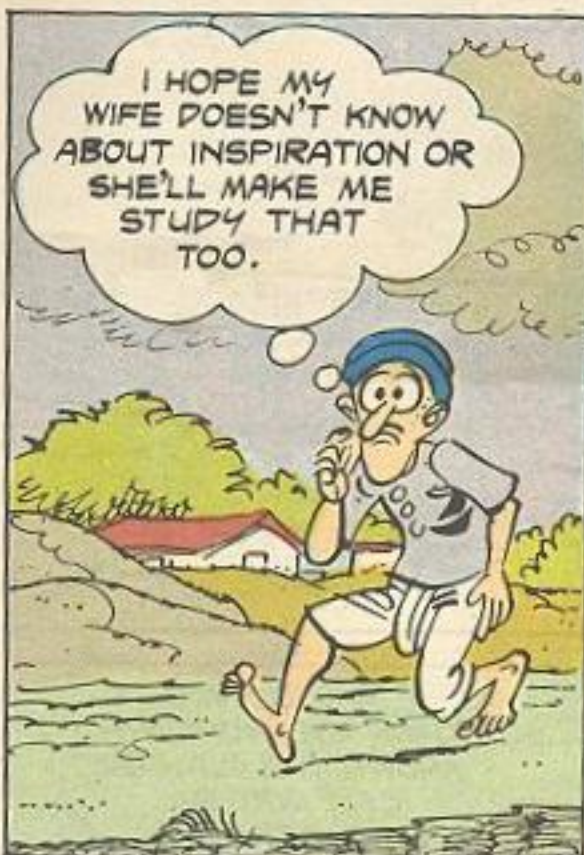
YOU  
WANT TO  
WRITE  
POETRY, DO  
YOU?



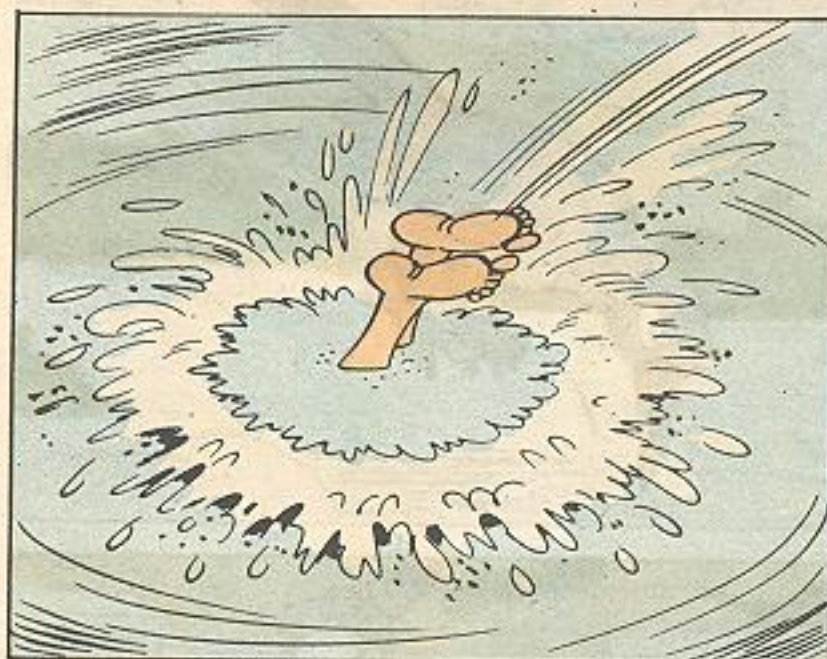
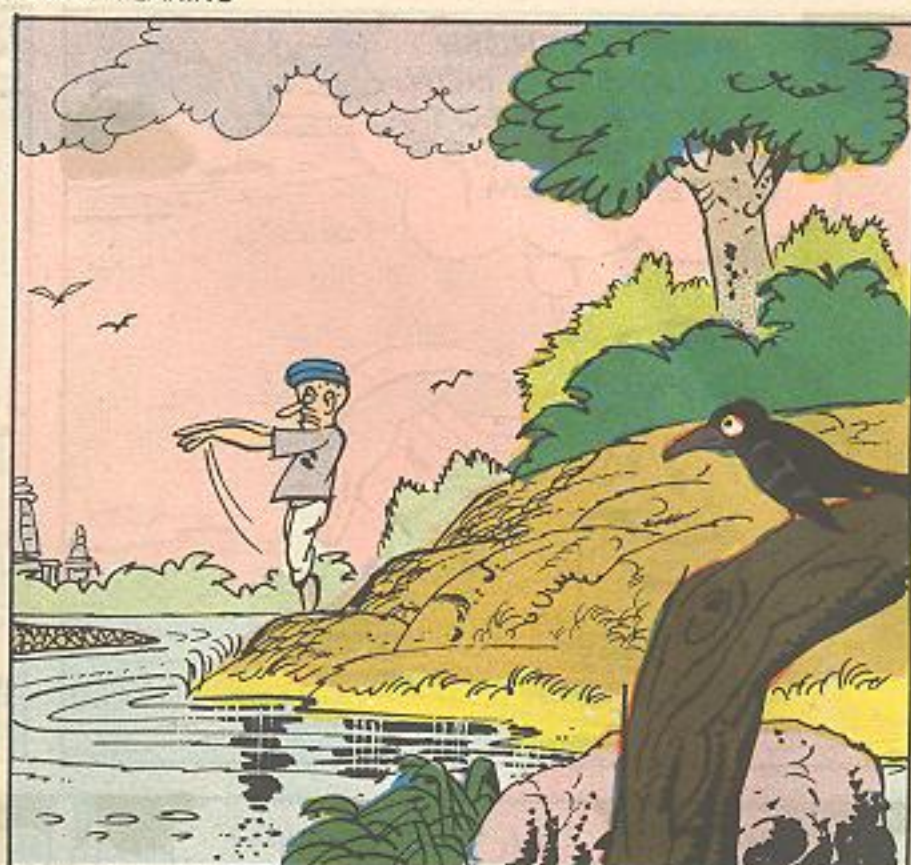
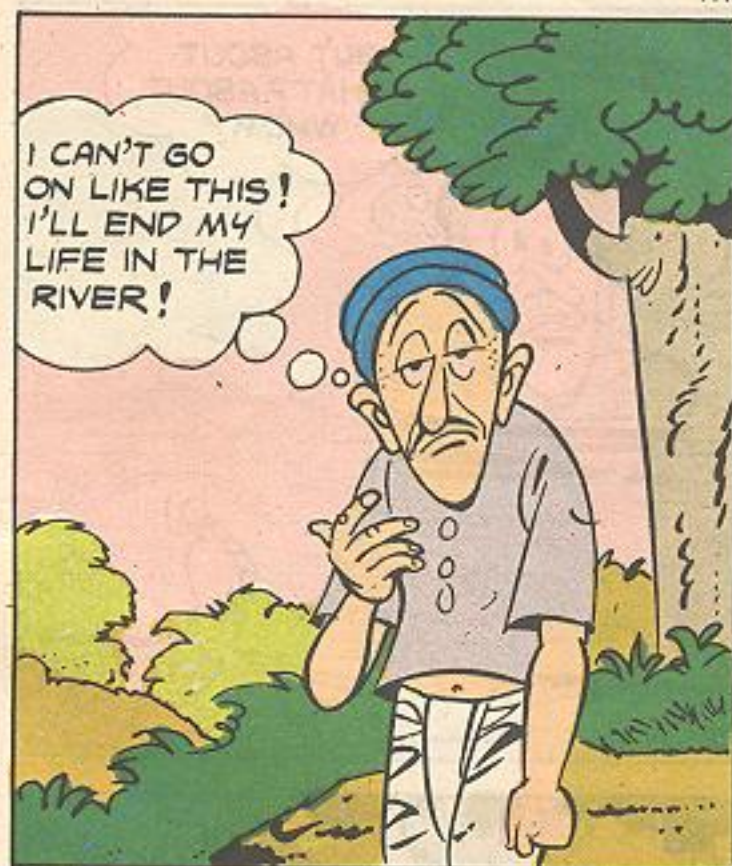
AND DO YOU  
THINK EVERYONE WHO  
KNOWS THE ALPHABET  
CAN WRITE  
POETRY?













WHAT A STROKE  
OF LUCK! BUT NOW  
THAT I HAVE GOT  
INSPIRATION I MUST  
WRITE A POEM!



BUT ABOUT  
WHAT? ABOUT  
WHOM?



AH, THAT CROW...!  
HE IS SHARPENING  
HIS BEAK IN  
EXPECTATION OF  
A FEAST.



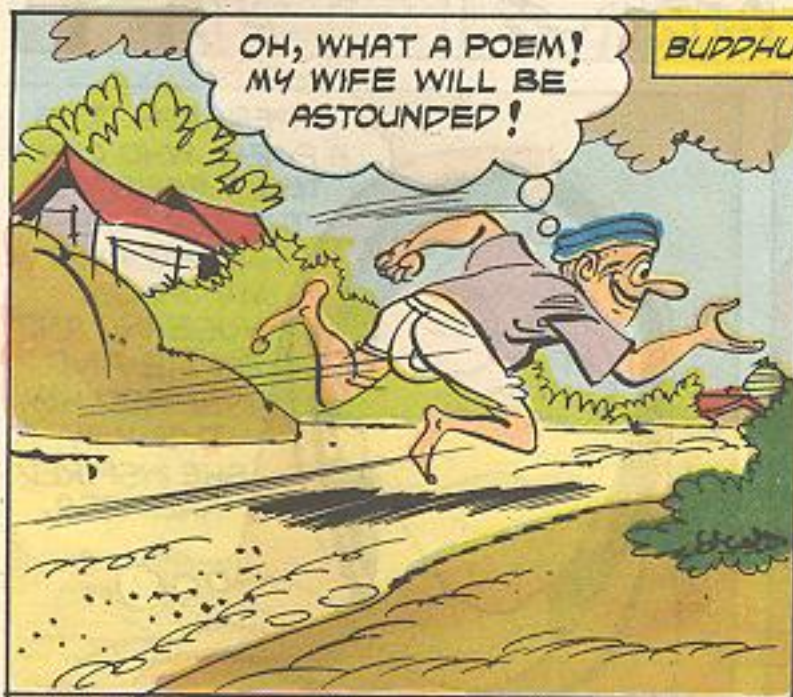
YOU DIP IT IN WATER  
AND SHARPEN IT... AGAIN  
AND AGAIN.



O, KALIA  
I CAN READ  
YOUR  
MIND!



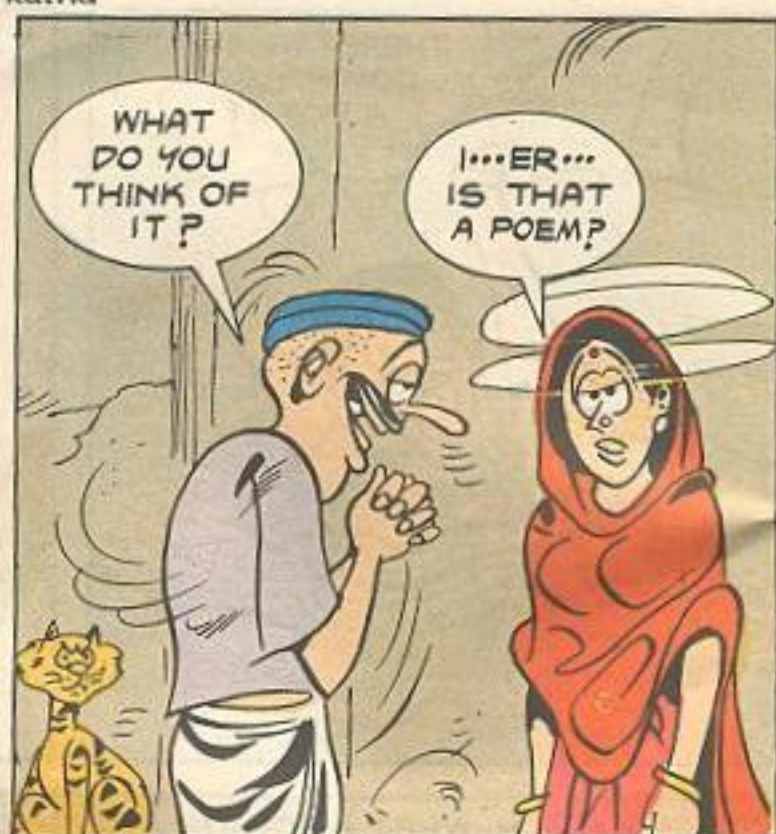




BUDDHURAM RAN HOME.









WHEN HE GOT THERE —

I HAVE COME  
TO RECITE  
A POEM.

YOU  
CAN GO  
IN. THE  
SESSION  
HAS JUST  
BEGUN.

BUDDHURAM WENT IN AND TOOK HIS PLACE  
AMONG THE POETS.

SOME OF THESE MEN WERE FAMED  
THROUGHOUT THE LAND AND THEY HELD THE  
AUDIENCE SPELLBOUND.

BUDDHURAM WAITED IMPATIENTLY FOR HIS TURN. FINALLY  
THE LAST MAN FINISHED HIS RECITATION.

NOW THEY'LL  
KNOW WHAT REAL  
POETRY IS.

IS THERE  
ANYBODY  
LEFT?

YES!!

YOU  
MAY BEGIN,  
THEN.



BUDDHURAM CLEARED HIS THROAT, THREW OUT HIS CHEST AND BEGAN TO RECITE HIS COMPOSITION IN A LOUD BOOMING VOICE.



YOU DIP IT IN WATER AND SHARPEN IT AGAIN AND AGAIN. O KALIA, I CAN READ YOUR MIND.

IS THAT A POEM?



THE WHOLE AUDIENCE BURST OUT LAUGHING...



...BUT THE KING MAINTAINED A DISCREET SILENCE.

NO ONE WOULD DARE TO COME HERE AND RECITE SUCH NONSENSE UNLESS THERE WAS SOME MEANING IN THE WORDS.



AND THE MAN APPEARS SO CONFIDENT. HE'S SURELY NOT A FOOL.



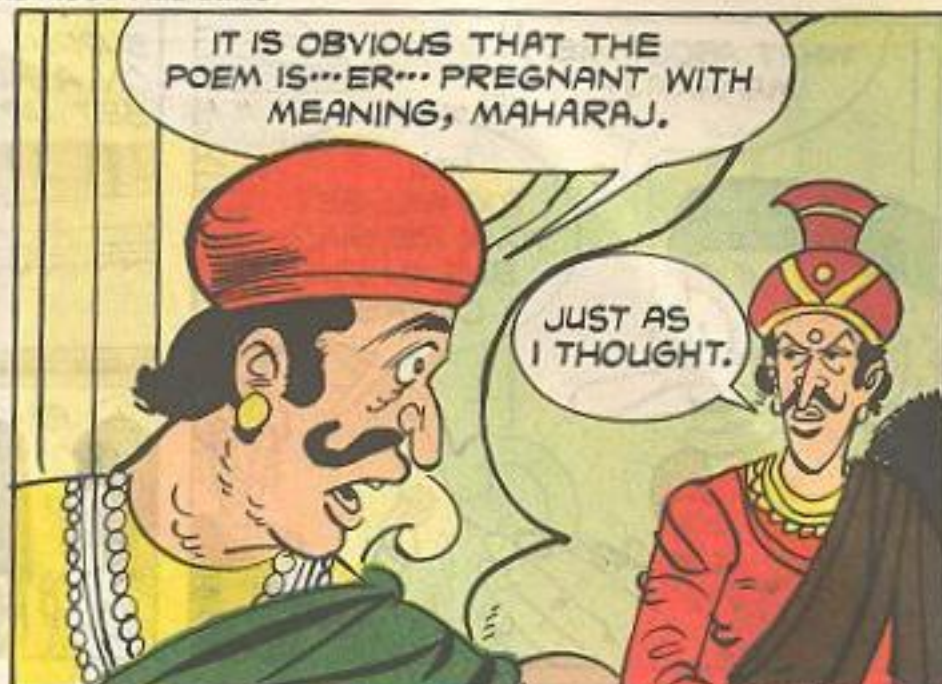
HE TURNED TO HIS MINISTER.

WELL, WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE POEM?

I... WELL...











BUDDHURAM'S COMPOSITION WAS WRITTEN ON A HUGE BOARD AND THE BOARD WAS SET UP IN THE COURTYARD.



MANY POETS AND SCHOLARS PUZZLED OVER THE RHYME...



...BUT NO ONE COULD SEE ANY SPECIAL MEANING IN THE WORDS.



DAYS PASSED. THEN ONE MORNING, AS THE KING WAS BEING PREPARED FOR A SHAVE BY HIS BARBER —



THE BARBER PICKED UP HIS RAZOR...



...DIPPED IT INTO A CUP OF WATER...





...AND BEGAN TO SHARPEN IT.



YOU DIP IT  
IN WATER AND  
SHARPEN  
IT...



?



...AGAIN AND AGAIN.  
O KALIA, I CAN READ  
YOUR MIND.



WHAT!

FORGIVE ME,  
MAHARAJ!



IT WAS NOT MY  
IDEA AT ALL!  
THEY ASKED  
ME TO DO IT!

DO WHAT?

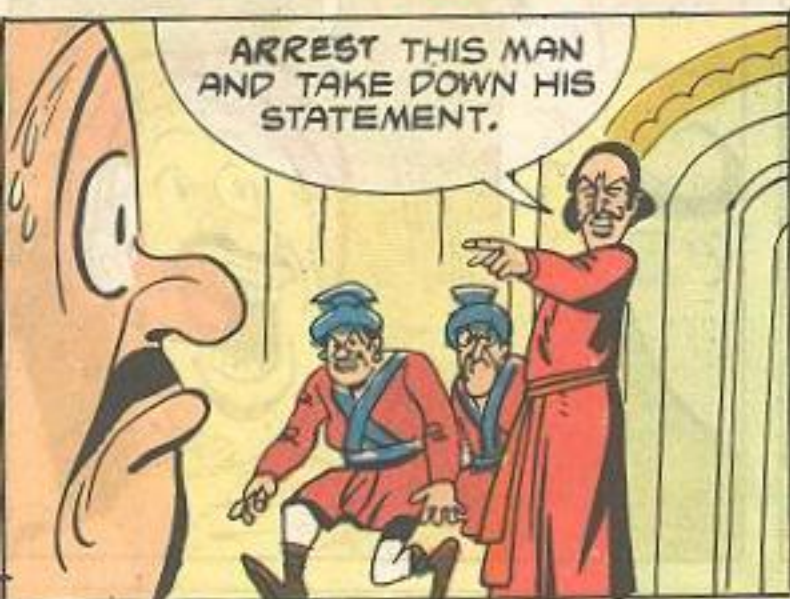
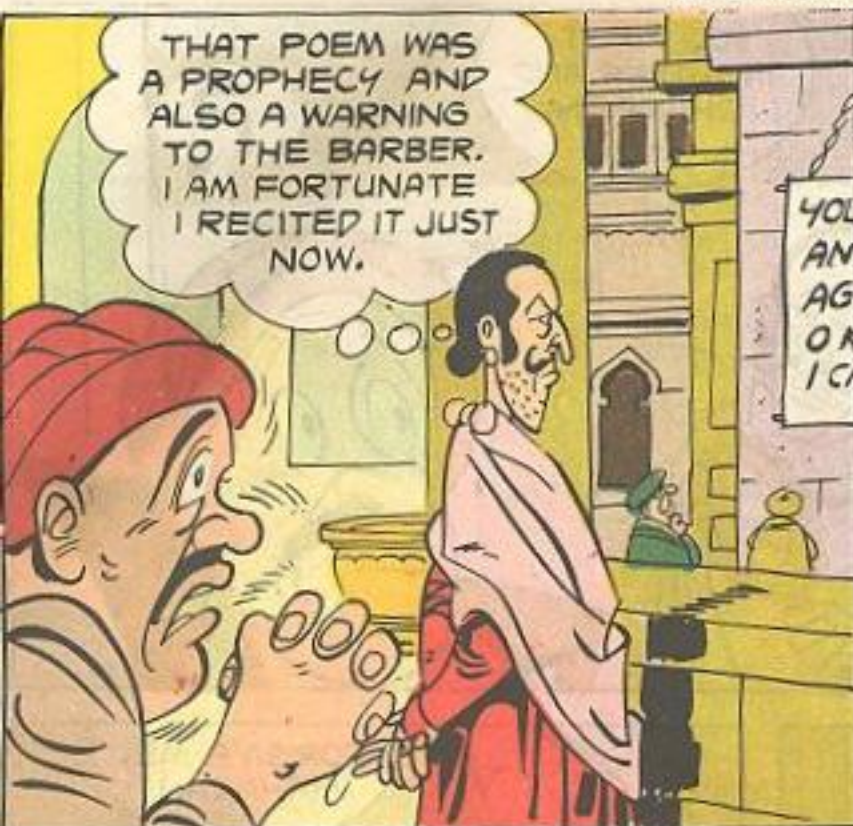


CUT YOUR  
THROAT.

OH,  
I SEE IT  
ALL NOW.







SO IT WAS THAT BUDDHURAM BECAME A GREAT HERO. THE KING REWARDED HIM HANDSOMELY AND HE RETURNED HOME, RICH AND FAMOUS.





# Jeevan and Hanu meet the human-est creatures

## THE THINGS DOLPHINS DO!

Man has long been fascinated by dolphins. In return, these friendly mischievous creatures often seek the company of men. Many scientists believe that dolphins may be among the most intelligent creatures on earth... as intelligent as man, if not more so. Ancient Greeks believed that they were actually humans who exchanged land for sea, assuming the form of fishes.



Dolphins produce a rich variety of sounds by shifting air through passages in their skulls. A 'lens' of fat in their forehead focuses on these sounds. By studying echoes, dolphins can pinpoint a small marble dropped into the far end of a pool.



Dolphins can be trained to perform amazing tricks. Such as complicated leaps and jumps, spins, dives, splashes — often in time to music. Or pulling a dog on a surfboard. Or even playing basketball.



every bit of trash they fetched from the water. He grew suspicious when one 12-year old named Dr. Spock began claiming too many rewards. He finally realized that Dr. Spock had hidden a stack of waste paper in a corner of the pool, and was exchanging it for fish, bit by bit. The dolphin was training the trainer!

When humans are near, dolphins stick their noses out of the water and make sounds. They are probably trying to communicate with men. Scientists are studying their language so that they can reply.

One dolphin-trainer trained his pets to tidy up their pool. He would reward them with fish for



Millions of years ago, dolphins were land dwellers. Gradually they took to the sea, changing their entire body structure.

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**Dipy dee Dipy doo  
come to  
Dipyland**

***Yippee it's Dipy's!***